

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 EB-11 EURE-00 IO-12 RSR-01 /128 W  
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P R 181630 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3380

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONGEN HONGKONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 373

E. O. 11652 N. A.

TAGS: PFOR, CH, XG

SUBJECT: CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER THORN; (1) HIS VISIT TO  
CHINA; (2) EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS' MEETING.

1. PAID MY INITIAL COURTESY CALL ON FONMIN THORN  
MAY 17. HE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM OFFICIAL VISIT  
TO CHINA MAY 4-11 AND FROM EC MINISTERIAL COUNCIL  
MEETING BRUSSELS MAY 14-15.

2. THORN TOLD ME CHOU EN LAI HAD EXPRESSED HOPE THAT U. S.  
WOULD KEEP A STRONG NATO FORCE IN EUROPE AND WOULD NOT CUT  
BACK TOO MUCH, AS CHOU FELT RUSSIA WAS NOT TO BE TRUSTED.  
CHOU ALSO STATED THAT CHINA WAS STUDYING CLOSELY OUR  
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RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN AND WAS CONCERNED THAT JAPAN MIGHT BECAUSE OF HER STRENGTH ECONOMICALLY TRY TO GET INTO A POSITION OF BUILDING UP MILITARY STRENGTH. CHOU SAID IF JAPAN TRIED TO GET THINGS GOING HER WAY THROUGH THE THREAT OF MILITARY FORCE, CHINA WOULD GO TO WAR WITH HER. ACCORDING TO THORN, CHOU ALSO EXPRESSED WARINESS AS TO WHAT EXTENT OUR FRIENDSHIP WITH RUSSIA WOULD HAVE AN IMPACT ON U. S. RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

3. I ASKED ABOUT FRENCH FONMIN JOBERT' S SPEECH AT THE EC COUNCIL MEETING IN BRUSSELS. THORN SAID IT WAS A COMPLETELY PREPARED SPEECH, DELIVERED IN A BELLIGERENT MOOD. ITS CONTENTS WERE IN A RIGID VEIN AND M. JOBERT FELT THAT IF THE U. S. WANTED TO NEGOTIATE, WE COULD ASK FOR NEGOTIATIONS, BUT THAT WE SHOULD GET NO FAVORED TREATMENT OR CONCESSIONS. JOBERT HAD STIPULATED THERE SHOULD BE FIRST A MONETARY AGREEMENT BEFORE ANY TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COULD TAKE PLACE. MINISTER THORN REMINDED HIM THAT M. SCHUMANN HAD STATED JUST THE REVERSE ATTITUDE: FIRST TRADE, THEN MONETARY PLANNING. M. JOBERT SAID SITUATIONS WERE DIFFERENT NOW. THORN SAID HE AND DOUGLAS- HOME WERE THE ONLY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO SPEAK UP TO M. JOBERT CONCERNING HIS " UNFRIENDLY" ATTITUDE TO THE U. S. THE OTHER MEMBERS, WHILE NOT " SEEMING" TO AGREE WITH M. JOBERT, WERE NOT VERY ACTIVE IN QUESTIONING HIS VIEWPOINT EITHER.

4. MINISTER THORN THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS M. JOBERT WAS BEING TOUGH IN ORDER TO SET THE STAGE FOR PRESIDENT NIXON' S MEETING WITH M. POMPIDOU SO THAT IF POMPIDOU DOES SHOW A MORE LENIENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS U. S. TRADE REQUESTS, IT WILL SHOW THAT HE IS WILLING TO COMPROMISE. FARKAS

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NMAFVVZCZ

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\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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SECSTATE WASHDC  
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